PATENT Attorney Docket No. BU9-99-055

Examiner: W. Coleman

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL (37 CFR § 1.10)

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER OR FEE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE, EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" UNDER 37 CFR § 1.10, BEARING EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO EL 878196390 US, ON THIS 1974 DAY OF OCTOBER, 2001, AND IS

ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.

	/ 1
James M. Olsen (Printed name of person mailing paper)	(Signature of person mailing paper)
In re Divisional Application of:)(/
Andres BRYANT et al.)V) <u>PRIOR APPLICATION:</u>
Serial No.: (Divisional of prior application Serial No. 09/425,394, filed October 22, 19)

Filed: October 17, 2001

DISPOSABLE SPACER FOR

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Commissioner for Patents Box Patent Application Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

For:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently herewith the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents were previously submitted in a prior application, Serial No. 09/425,394, filing date October 22, 1999, upon which Applicants rely for the benefit provided in 35

#166511v1<CB> -Information Disclosure Statement.wpd Attorney Docket No. BU9-99-055 (21806*142)

U.S.C. § 120. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and

indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists

and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or

constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim

in the application and Applicants determine that the cited document(s) do not constitute "prior art"

under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and

law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability

of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be

applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee

to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0456.

Respectfully submitted,

CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

Date: October 17, 2001

Attachment for PTO-948 (Rev. 03/01, or earlier) 6/18/01

The below text replaces the pre-printed text under the heading, "Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes," on the back of the PTO-948 (Rev. 03/01, or earlier) form.

INFORMATION ON HOW TO EFFECT DRAWING CHANGES

1. Correction of Informalities - 37 CFR 1.85

New corrected drawings must be filed with the changes incorporated therein. Identifying indicia, if provided, should include the title of the invention, inventor's name, and application number, or docket number (if any) if an application number has not been assigned to the application. If this information is provided, it must be placed on the front of each sheet and centered within the top margin. If corrected drawings are required in a Notice of Allowability (PTOL-37), the new drawings MUST be filed within the THREE MONTH shortened statutory period set for reply in the Notice of Allowability. Extensions of time may NOT be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b) for filing the corrected drawings after the mailing of a Notice of Allowability. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

2. Corrections other than Informalities Noted by Draftsperson on form PTO-948.

All changes to the drawings, other than informalities noted by the Draftsperson, MUST be made in the same manner as above except that, normally, a highlighted (preferably red ink) sketch of the changes to be incorporated into the new drawings MUST be approved by the examiner before the application will be allowed. No changes will be permitted to be made, other than correction of informalities, unless the examiner has approved the proposed changes.

Timing of Corrections

Applicant is required to submit the drawing corrections within the time period set in the attached Office communication. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Failure to take corrective action within the set period will result in ABANDONMENT of the application.